Sustaining Ecosystems

**Data Sharing**

The first step is sharing data on Blackboard. You need to:

1. Create a data table in Excel with your data.
2. Make sure your data table is appropriately labeled.
3. Post your table in the Sustaining Ecosystems Discussion Board on Blackboard.
   1. Go to Blackboard, First Quarter, Sustaining Ecosystems Discussion Board.
   2. Choose the Discussion Board for your topic.
   3. Click on ‘Create Thread’.
   4. In the subject line, title your post with the name of your model (Aquatic Animals, Aquatic Plants, Decomposition or Terrestrial) and the last names of ALL your group members.
   5. Click ‘Browse My Computer’ to attach the data table. **ONLY POST ONCE PER GROUP**.
   6. Click ‘Submit’.

**Writing your lab report**

We will be following a different format for this lab report. Please refer these directions ONLY.

**Background (read this part)**

Models help us look at the larger world and take measurements under controlled circumstances. Each group had a model of a single component of an ecosystem. How important is the role of each component of the ecosystem to the overall health and functioning of the ecosystem?

You will need to use your notes and the textbook to complete your lab report. Instead of simply relaying results, you will be comparing how those results relate to the real world.

**Lab Report (do this part)**

1. Open a Word document.
2. Title your lab report. This should include a title you create, your name and class period.
3. Section 1: Setting the Stage
   1. In this section, write a paragraph describing
      1. What model you created and how.
      2. What aspect of the ecosystem it represent.
      3. What data you collected.
      4. What was the purpose of collecting that data?
4. Section 2: Data and Observations
   1. You will need to look and create a data table using the data for ALL GROUPS.
      1. Go back to Blackboard, First Quarter, Sustaining Ecosystems Discussion Board.
      2. Click on the discussions for each model and look at their data.
      3. Copy and paste the data to create a single data table. This will take some manipulation of data. You must make sure that all the data is used. For qualitative observations, create a separate column that can be left out of the graph.
      4. Save the data table, copy and paste it into your lab report.
      5. Create a graph based off the CLASS DATA.

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1. Claims and Evidence
   1. What can you claim based on the data collected? This is similar to when we did the table analysis. Look for trends in data (i.e. dissolved oxygen levels, pH levels, microbial activity, mortality, etc). You will need to make at least 2 separate claims.
   2. For each claim, provide evidence. This means using data from the table to support your statement.
2. Reflections - This section provides relevance. We look at how the activity relates to the topics studied in class and the larger world
   1. You must have 2 textbook citations that back up your evidence/support your claim. This means 2 textbook citations total, not 2 per claim. Citations must include the direct quote, the page number and a minimum of 2 sentences describing how that quote supports/relates to your claim.
   2. You must have 2 lecture citations. How does this connect with the content presented in class? Look in your workbook for this. Once again you must cite include the direct quote, the page number from your workbook and a minimum of 2 sentences describing how that quote supports/relates to your claim
   3. You must have 2 real world applications. How does this apply either directly to the real world? Where can you find examples of this? You might need to use the internet to help you with this part.